

PRESIDENT: You have heard the question. All those in favor of advancing the bill say aye, opposed no. The motion carried. The bill is advanced. Now then, anything further before we go to General File? All right, now we will go to General File for LB 62.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 62 of course is a bill offered by Senator Wiitala. (Read.) The bill was first read on January 6. It was referred to the Education Committee for a hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. The bill was considered by the Legislature yesterday, Mr. President. At that time Senator Beutler had an amendment that was offered. I now have pending, Mr. President, an amendment from Senator Beutler found on page 508 of the Legislative Journal.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, as you will recall this bill has to do with providing a different kind of foreign language program for some schools and I believe we have now determined that it would apply to grade schools outstate. It would not apply to grade schools in Lincoln and Omaha and to further clarify the legislative record I would ask you, Senator Wiitala, does the bill apply to high schools in Lincoln and Omaha or by virtue of our discussion yesterday, can we conclude that it will definitely not apply to high schools in Lincoln and Omaha, by virtue of the fact that they have some established language programs?

SENATOR WIITALA: That is right. Senator Beutler, I would have to say that the intent of LB 62 is to address those small school systems that are rurally based that do not have presently in any shape or form a foreign language program and it would preclude large school systems like Omaha, Class III schools that have language programs at the high schools, the Lincoln Public Schools from being a part....

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, so then on Select File you would have no objection if we just simply eliminated those classes of school districts to make the law clear for the administrators?

SENATOR WIITALA: Senator Beutler, I think your argument or the argument that you are developing is specious.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, thank you, Senator Wiitala. The amendment that is before you right now was also designed to help clarify a section of the bill. You may note that down in, on page 2 of the bill it says in determining how the districts are going to be selected, "The department shall select such districts based upon the number of students served."